

ILLEGIB

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Route

 IS - 55/64
 27 January 1964
 Copy 1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Manufacturing and Services Division, CRR

25X1A ATTENTION : [REDACTED]

THROUGH : Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Division, CRR

FROM : Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT : Status of Rail lines in North Vietnam

REFERENCE : (1) CRR Requirement No. C-RRM-60,973
 (2) CIA/PID Project No. C-127/64

1. This memorandum is in response to the above referenced requirements which request a report on the present status of the following rail lines in North Vietnam: Hanoi-Dong Dang; Hanoi-Lao Kay; and Hanoi-Vinh.

25X1D 2. The Hanoi-Dong Dang Railroad Line currently is in operation as a meter gauge (2' 2 1/8") line. In reviewing film taken over this line between [REDACTED] it became apparent that the North Vietnamese began to construct a new railroad line closely paralleling the original Hanoi-Dong Dang Line in or about [REDACTED]. Construction work on this project extended from approximately 21 15N - 106 10E to 21 25N - 106 30E, a distance of approximately 50 km. Construction work on this project was abandoned late in [REDACTED]. No bridges or tunnels were ever constructed. Only preliminary grading of the roadbed was completed. A review of film from 25X1D [REDACTED] the latest photo mission covering this line, shows no evidence of new activity on this construction project.

3. The Hanoi-Lao Kay Railroad Line shows no evidence of the gauge being changed or that the line is being doubled-tracked. There is, however, a great deal of work being done all along the line to straighten out its numerous sharp curves, and thereby improve operations.

4. The Hanoi-Vinh Railroad Line is currently being rehabilitated. The bridge at Thanh Hoa is in the final stages of construction. Both abutments appear complete, and the center pier appears to be in the final stages of construction. One steel truss appears to be fabricated and ready to be put into place, however, it appears that no work has been started on the second truss. The rail line is operational from the bridge to a point five km. south of the railroad station in Thanh Hoa. Southward from this point the old abandoned rail line is being rehabilitated, however, no rails or cross-ties are in. All the bridges are in place between Thanh Hoa and Vinh, except four short, probably single span structures. Southward from Vinh to the 17th parallel, the old

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abandoned rail line was checked. No new construction work on this section has been initiated. It was also discovered that 13 major bridges are still out and that most of the roadbed is in a very poor state of repair.

5. All of the intelligence concerning the present status of the rail lines in North Vietnam was extracted from film on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] respectively.

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6. The photo analyst assigned to this project was [REDACTED] who may be contacted on extension 2546 should any questions arise concerning this requirement. This project is considered complete.

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[REDACTED]